

Remarks

In the office action, the specification was objected to because of improper format for the Abstract, and because it did not contain section headings. In addition, claim 16 was objected to for failing to further limit the subject matter of the previous claim. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,590,199 to Krajewski Jr. et al. ("Krajewski et al."). Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Krajewski et al. Finally, claims 1-11 and 14-15 were deemed to be allowable over the prior art of record.

In this response, Applicants have amended the Abstract and have cancelled claim 16. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to claims 12 and 13 is requested in view of the following remarks.

A. Objections to the Specification:

The specification was objected to because of improper format for the Abstract, and because it did not contain section headings. Applicants have amended the Abstract to be in proper format. With regard to the headings, Applicants disagree with Examiner's assertion that the specification contains no section headings except for the claim section. In the Preliminary Amendment filed on November 24, 1999, Applicants amended the specification to include all of the appropriated headings including "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION", "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION", etc.

Withdrawal of the rejections to the specification is respectfully requested.

B. Objections to Claim 16:

Applicants have cancelled claim 16 without prejudice.

C. Rejections to claims 12 and 13:

Claims 12 and 13 were rejected being anticipated by Krajewski et al. and claim 13 was rejected as being unpatentable over Krajewski et al.

Krajewski et al. describes an electronic information network user authentication and authorization system. Krajewski et al. further describes a Kerberos protocol, which utilizes a trusted central authentication server (KAS).

Claim 12 recites:

A trusted agent for enabling the check of the access of a user operating a first computer system controlled by a first security system to software and/or data on a second computer system controlled by a second security system comprising [among other functions]:

- a) reception of a user-id from said *second computer system* and transmission of said user-id to said second security system . . . (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully submit that Krajewski et al. does not describe -- nor teach or suggest -- at least the feature (a) of claim 1. The Krajewski et al. KAS 32, which controls access from an untrusted work station 14 to services A, B, or C via network 18, communicates exclusively with the workstation 14 (i.e. the client computer system that is operated by the user) for issuing a server ticket which provides access to one of the mentioned services. (See column 5, lines 39 - column 7, line 24). Krajaewski et al. does not describe the feature of receiving a computer user-id from a second computer system (such as authorization server 32 in Krajewski et al.) and transmitting that user-id to a second security system.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection to claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Moreover, Krajewski also provides no suggestion to a person of ordinary skill in the art for the feature (a) of claim. The KAS 32 is part of a centralized architecture wherein the Authentication Server performs all security related tasks, and there is no does not address the problem of marrying two or more different security systems for providing a secure access.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection to claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons stated above, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1- 15. It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner feel that an interview would advance prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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